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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
10/711,782	10/05/2004	Kenrou YAMAMOTO	040515	5781

23850 7590 09/27/2006

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EXAMINER

WHITTINGTON, KENNETH

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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2862

DATE MAILED: 09/27/2006

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

Office Action Summary	Application No. 10/711,782	Applicant(s) YAMAMOTO, KENROU	
	Examiner Kenneth J. Whittington	Art Unit 2862	

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) OR THIRTY (30) DAYS, WHICHEVER IS LONGER, FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) ☐ Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1-13 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above claim(s) ____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☒ Claim(s) 1-10 is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 11-13 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) ____ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claim(s) ____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) ☐ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☒ The drawing(s) filed on 05 October 2004 is/are: a) ☒ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
- a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some * c) ☐ None of:
1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. ____.
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- | | |
|--|---|
| 1) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) | 4) <input type="checkbox"/> Interview Summary (PTO-413) |
| 2) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) | Paper No(s)/Mail Date. ____. |
| 3) <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO/SB/08) | 5) <input type="checkbox"/> Notice of Informal Patent Application |
| Paper No(s)/Mail Date <u>10/5/04, 10/7/04</u> . | 6) <input type="checkbox"/> Other: ____. |

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DETAILED ACTION

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

6 A person shall be entitled to a patent unless -

12 (e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

18 Claims 11-13 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by Duan et al. (US6,965,229), hereinafter Duan.

Regarding claim 11 Duan discloses a disk for use in a method of evaluating a magnetic head by applying an impact to the magnetic head under specific condition and then determining as to whether the fixed layer of the magnetic head undergoes inversion of magnetization direction, said disk having bumps that apply the impact to the magnetic head while being rotated (See Duan FIG. 3, item 302, col. 2, lines 6-22 and col. 4, lines 37-56).

Regarding claim 12, Duan discloses the bumps having been formed by applying a laser beam to a disk-shaped medium (See col. 4, lines 37-56).

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Regarding claim 13, Duan discloses the disk having a bump region in which bumps are formed, and a non-bump region in which no bumps are formed (See FIG. 3, item 302 and col. 4, lines 37-56).

6

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-10 are allowed.

12

The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance: the prior art does not show applying a magnetic field in a direction opposite to the magnetization direction of the fixed layer in combination with the other features of the testing apparatus recited in the claims.

Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

18

Prior Art

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure. US2002/0063984, US6,400,519, US6,373,647, US6,140,814, US 5,998,993 and

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US5,952,563 each disclose method for testing head elements.

US6,797,130 discloses a manufacturing method for a bump disk.

Conclusion

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier
6 communications from the examiner should be directed to Kenneth
J. Whittington whose telephone number is (571) 272-2264. The
examiner can normally be reached on Monday-Friday, 7:30am-
4:00pm.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are
unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Edward Lefkowitz can be
12 reached on (571) 272-2180. The fax phone number for the
organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is
571-273-8300.


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Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free). If you would like assistance from a USPTO Customer Service Representative or access to the automated information system, call 800-786-9199 (IN USA OR CANADA) or 571-272-1000.



Kenneth J Whittington
Examiner
Art Unit 2862

kjw



EDWARD LEFKOWITZ
SUPERVISORY PATENT EXAMINER
TECHNOLOGY CENTER 2800